

## ERIC GARCETTI MAYOR

May 31, 2016

The Honorable Kevin de León Senate President pro Tempore State Capitol, Room 205 Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Mark Leno Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee State Capitol, Room 5100 Sacramento, California 95814 The Honorable Anthony Rendon Speaker of the California State Assembly State Capitol, Room 219 Sacramento, California 95814

The Honorable Philip Ting, Chair, Assembly Budget Committee State Capitol, Room 6026 Sacramento, California 95814

RE: Budget proposal to help counties combat homelessness: City of Los Angeles: Support

Dear President pro Tempore de León, Speaker Rendon, Senator Leno, and Assemblymember Ting:

On behalf of the City of Los Angeles, I write in support of providing counties with the legal authority to impose a special tax, with voter approval, on personal annual incomes of more than \$1 million in the California Budget Act. If approved, this provision would provide local governments with an option for revenue sources dedicated toward housing and services for homeless individuals and families.

In February of this year, the City of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County took unprecedented action by approving comprehensive and coordinated plans to address homelessness. To address the housing and homelessness crisis, these plans identified a need for dedicated long-term funding source.

This proposal empowers voters and local governments to maintain and improve the supply of affordable housing and homelessness services. It will also provide funding for

The Honorable Kevin de León, The Honorable Anthony Rendon, The Honorable Mark Leno, and The Honorable Philip Ting May 31, 2016 Page 2

the production and preservation of affordable housing without impacting the state budget.

On behalf of the City of Los Angeles, I strongly urge your support for the inclusion of this proposal in the final California Budget Act of 2016-17.

Sincerely,

**ERIC GARCETTI** 

Mayor

cc: Governor Jerry Brown

## RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, any official position of the City of Los Angeles with respect to legislation, rules, regulations or policies proposed to or pending before a local, state or federal governmental body or agency must have first been adopted in the form of a Resolution by the City Council with the concurrence of the Mayor; and

WHEREAS, in February of this year both the City and County of Los Angeles took unprecedented action by approving comprehensive plans to address homelessness; and

WHEREAS, addressing homelessness and implementing the plans will require hundreds of millions of dollars over multiple years to provide the housing and services needed to provide stable homes; and

WHEREAS, both the City and the County are seeking to identify dedicated long-term funding sources to sustain their efforts; and

WHEREAS, the County Board of Supervisors recently took action to seek legislation that would allow for the establishment of a half-cent tax on individuals whose income exceeds one million dollars annually; and

WHEREAS, State legislation is needed to allow counties the authority to levy such a tax and place such a measure on the ballot for voter approval, as counties do not have the authority to levy such an income tax; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure all funding options are available to address homelessness in Los Angeles, the City should support the County's legislative proposal to amend State law to grant counties the authority to seek voter approval of a tax on personal income above \$1,000,000 per year to combat homelessness;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, with the concurrence of the Mayor, that by the adoption of this Resolution, the City of Los Angeles hereby include in its 2015-2016 State Legislative Program SUPPORT for Los Angeles County's efforts to amend State law to grant counties the authority to seek voter approval of a tax on personal income above \$1,000,000 per year to combat homelessness.

PRESENTED BY:

MARQUEECE HARRIS-DAWSON

Councilmember, 8th District

SECONDED BY:

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